TL 3809

OMCT
OPERATING THE SOS-TORTURE NETWORK

ORGANISATION MONDIALE CONTRE LA TORTURE
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Case IDN/TMP280597.1
Follow-up of case IDN/TMP280597

The International Secretariat of OMCT has received new information on the following situation in **East Timor**.

Brief reminder of the of the situation:

The international Secretariat was informed, by reliable sources, of the grave concerns for the physical and psychological integrity of **Joao Guterres** (also known as **Mau-Lana**) (28) whose whereabouts were unknown.

According to the information received, **Joao Guterres** was arrested by members of Kopassus (Special Forces Command) on 15 May 1997, between Vemasse and Laleia, in the district of Bacau, and was taken to the "Red House" (Kopassus headquarters) in Baucau where he was detained from 16 to 17 May. Other prisoners had reported that **Joao Guterres** was taken away to a waiting army helicopter at 5.00pm on 17 May, and flown to an unknown destination.

New information:

According to the new information received, **Joao Guterres** has been taken to Dili where he is currently detained at Battalion 744 headquarters in Taibessi. The reason for his arrest is unconfirmed, however, according to one source, **Joao Guterres,** who is an employee of the hotel Villa Harmonia in Dili, had been seen talking to some foreigners. The information suggests that **Joao Guterres** has been arbitrary arrested.

The International Secretariat fears that **Joao Guterres** may be at heightened risk of torture and ill-treatment.

Action requested:

Please write to the Indonesian authorities urging them to:

i take all necessary measures to guarantee the physical and psychological integrity of **Joao Guterres**

ii order his immediate release in the absence of valid charges or if such charges exist, bring him before a competent and impartial civil tribunal and guarantee his procedural rights at all times;

iii carry out an impartial and thorough investigation into the illegal detention, the presumed forced disappearance, and all other violations including the practise of torture, identify those responsible and impose upon them the civil, penal and/or administrative sanctions provided by law

iv ensure in all circumstances the full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with national and international standards.

Addresses:

MINISTER OF JUSTICE M. Haji Utoyo Usman S.H., Menteri Kehakiman, JI. H.R. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7, Kuningan, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia. Fax : + 62 21 314 1625

3. MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS Ali Alatas S.H. Menteri Luar Negeri, Jl. Medan Taman Pejambon No. 6, Jakarta, Indonesia Fax: +62 21 360 541 / 360 517 / 380 5511 / 345 7782

CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE Maj. Gen. (Pol.) Banurusman Atmosumitro, Kapolri, Markas Besar Kepolisian RI, JI. Trunojoyo 13, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia.
Telegrams : National Police Chief, Jakarta, Indonesia

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA(covers East Timor, amongst other areas)

Maj. Gen. H. A. Rivai, Pangdam IX/Udayana, Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia.
Telegram : Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia.

SECRETARY GENERAL, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS Prof. Dr. Baharuddin Lopa, Sekretaris Jenderal, Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), JI Pemuda No.104 Arawamangun, Jakarta, Indonesia.

The Indonesian Embassy in your respective country.

Geneva, 2 June 1997

Kindly inform us of any action undertaken quoting the code of this appeal in your reply